

## **LISTING OF THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-2 (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~treating preparing a drug for the treatment of a~~ neurodegenerative phase of multiple sclerosis in mammals, which method comprises administering to a mammal afflicted with the neurodegenerative phase of multiple sclerosis incorporating in said drug a pharmaceutical formulation comprising a P2X7 purinergic receptor antagonist, wherein the antagonist is selected from the group consisting of Evans Blue, NF279, BBG, o-ATP, KN62, TNP-ATP and HMA.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the antagonist is o-ATP.

Claims 5-9 (Canceled).